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17th February 1922.

My dear Raja Sahib,

Very many thanks for your letter of the 6th Instant from Jallandar.

I have read it out to His Highness, omitting, of course, those very kind references which you have, out of the goodness of your heart, made to myself. His Highness asks me to convey his best thanks to you for the photograph, and he was very pleased with it. Please accept my own thanks for the nice photograph you have been good enough to send for myself. It will be a pleasant and constant reminder of your friendship and kindness towards me, and of our many interesting talks together. Thank you once again. The photo intended for Devaraj Urs will be delivered to him on his return from Madras a few days hence.

His Highness is willing to act on your advice, and to undertake a trip to Delhi to see the Viceroy, but before finally deciding upon it, he wishes to know whether it would not be better to see His Excellency at Simla. He has not seen the place, and he might be able to spend a fortnight or so there. The advantages would be that he would be able to see more of the Viceroy than if he went to Delhi just for a day or so, and secondly, as he would be staying there for some days, there would be more chance of securing an early disposal of the two questions; lastly he would be seing a new place. The disadvantage might be that it would mean delay, if His Highness were to wait till His Excellency went up to Simla.

His Highness wants me to mention all this to you, and ask for your advice.

Mr. Barton wrote privately some four days ago to say that he had made a strong representation to the Government of India, and urged them to dispose of the Subsidy question as early as possible. He seems to be really anxious to help us in regard to this question. His attitude is not so friendly in respect of the Surplus question, and that is perhaps only natural, as he feels that he is the sole guardian of the interests of the C & M. Station which is administered by him. I hope you agree with what was stated in my last letter with reference to the Surplus question.

Lady Reading has written to His Highness appealing for a subscription for the Women of India Fund. The Nizam has, I see, contributed Rs 25,000/- to it. I suppose His Highness too must give something, say Rs 5,000/- These people want to perpetuate their name and memory at others' expense, though the object for which funds are asked is no doubt a laudable one.

Have you seen Mr. Nihal Singh ? I sent you a copy of his letter to me. He was very anxious to see you. I have not heard from him for sometime.

I do hope we shall meet again soon.

With kindest regards

Yours Very sincerely

Sd. Mirza M Ismail

Raja Sir Daljit Singh, K.B.E., C.S.I.,

Jalladar City.